

**ELECTRICAL PROBLEMS.**

**THE MAJOR COMMANDED AND THE USE OF HIGH CURRENTS DEFENDED.**

**CASE OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATIONAL ELECTRICAL ASSOCIATION; PERMANENT HEADQUARTERS TO BE ESTABLISHED IN NEW YORK.**

The Association of Electrical Scientists closed their semi-annual Convention yesterday at the Hotel Brunswick. Mr. P. H. Vande Weide read a paper on "Alternating and Continuous Currents," in which he said that, despite Mr. Harold Brown's statement before Columbian College that alternating currents were more dangerous than direct, he believed alternating currents had a great future for more as well as illumination purposes.

A resolution was adopted expressing "heart sympathy with the views expressed by his Honor Major Hewitt in his address before the Association upon the subject of putting wires underground, and in addition thereto the Association expressed the opinion that, up to the present time, no commercially practical method has been brought to their notice by which high tension direct currents, such as are used for arc lighting, can be placed underground."

Dr. Moses offered resolutions upon the letter written by ex-Gov. Cornell to Mayor Hewitt, in which he advises the absolute prohibition of high tension circuits within city limits. He read the letter and said:

"It is like to know," said President Duncan, "if Mr. Cornell writes that letter as an expert or the representative of a company."

"I well know that he is in with the Western Union people, and his attack is of the nature of an attempt to stop the electric light business of the country."

The resolutions recited that the Association viewed with uneasiness the efforts of rival interests to prohibit the use of alternating currents, and that they protested against each other continuous and alternating current systems and to prohibit the use of alternating currents, destroyed the electric lighting interests of Great Britain, and resolved that it is possible to distribute high tension alternating currents more safely than in distributing gas or water; that success in electric light and power business depended upon high tension currents, continuous and alternating systems, and that "both may be so transformed before being used as to render them a perfectly harmless and safe means of distributing electrical power for use in cities."

The resolutions were applauded and passed unanimously.

The election of Boston read a paper on "An Insurance Exchange," descriptive of a New England association which offered a reduction in rates when buildings were lighted by electricity.

E. Weeks of Kansas City talked about electrical education.

He proposed that

comptrollers should be asked to establish an educational system in their factories to enable all employees who so desired to gain knowledge of electrical methods.

The resolutions were formed in this city having that end in view, and A. R. Foote of Cincinnati suggested the formation of a circular organization of electrical engineers and appointed Chairman of a committee to recommend to the colleges of the country courses in practical electric lighting.

A. C. Dyer of the Electrical Measurements "was read by G. A. Liebley, H. F. Lufkin of this city read a paper on "Electric Motors," advising the use of alternating motors in the place of direct motor, on the grounds that the revenue was larger and stoppages of a whole system less frequent. Mr. F. R. Colvin of Boston also spoke on the same subject, but all agreed that justice demanded a classification of conductors and uniformity in charges for the different sizes of power.

A. C. Dyer of the Boston office offered a resolution denouncing the practice of certain companies of furnishing apparatus and capital for the extension of electric lines in towns where the local capital had already been invested.

President S. A. Duncan's recommendation to establish permanent headquarters was adopted, and the election of the new permanent headquarters. The President will appoint an expert.

M. J. S. Wheeler, electrical expert to the Board of Electrical Control, presented statistics, gathered since last April, showing the number of violations of ordinances this year, the United States Electric Light Company, which has 113 dead poles and 238 dead wires, the top pole was described as a gorgon.

They have sent a report to the Board, eight times about the wires, and other notices have been sent to them to remove poles. The Westinghouse Electric Company has 166 dead poles, and has received forty-four notices. Among the minor sinners, the Fire Department has 11 dead wires, two dead poles, and six dead poles, and has received twenty-five notices about wires. The Police Department has had six notices about dead wires, and has eight dead poles besides.

**A Disobedient Son Cut Off With Six.**

LANCASTER, Aug. 31.—Ten years ago a son of John Whitecraft, a rich Lancaster county farmer, married a servant in the employ of the family against his father's strong opposition. It was supposed that time had reconciled the father to the match, as pleasant relations have existed between them ever since. But the old farmer died a few days ago, and the contents of his will have been made known. He divided \$100,000 equally between his wife and his son, and his son, who married again, left his wife with \$6,000, and that the son is disinherited for his disobedience ten years ago.

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Gen. Sheridan's article in the North American Review for September on "The Last Days of the Rebellion" is a precious legacy. It abounds in graphic picturesque, and is full of interest. It is a valuable addition to the dead that closed contribution from his pen, which is handed down to us by the Victoria Historical Soc.

**FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.**

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